

# Crossing

A PUBLICATION OF ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE • VOL.1 No 6 • SEPTEMBER 1994

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to transmit the Summer issue of the Crossings Newsletter. It has been most stimulating and thought-provoking to serve Roxbury Community College this past year. As we reflect on the past year, we feel a sense of renewal and promise that results from our very hard work and dedication. Roxbury Community College has always had an inner side of greatness and great potential. We are fortunate that we have been able to testify to that inner side and view the great potential.

The 20th Anniversary of Roxbury Community College brought several memorable events during the academic year of 1993 - 1994.

Governor Weld, members of his Cabinet, the Legislature, the community and the state high school track teams celebrated the ground breaking for Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center. Other important events included the opening of the first permanent bookstore, the Legislative Briefing, the Multicultural celebration, the 20th Commencement, student leadership development and the improved media image of RCC.

During this Summer we began planning the purchase and installation of a new computer system which will assist the College in providing state-of-the-art instruction and effective institutional management.

Academic year 1995 promises great opportunities for Roxbury Community College. The self-study process will culminate in the College's opportunity for an evaluation of its capacity for carrying out its mission and attracting the resources it needs to meet the standards of NEASC. The revitalization of Acuerdo, the new task force on Total Quality Management, the grants writing efforts, the NILIE surveys, and other objective measures will assist the College in contributing to the success of all employees and students.

As we continue our quest to improve student access and success and contribute to the economic development of our community, we look forward to new challenges and opportunities to grow and progress.

Dr. Grace Carolyn Brown

*Grace Carolyn Brown*  
President

## Ode to the Seasons

In Winter,  
We rest, reflect & prepare,  
In Spring,  
We recharge, renew & begin,  
In Summer,  
We reconstruct, rebuild & labor,  
In Fall,  
We receive, rejoice & reap what  
we sow,  
If Summer has come,  
Can Fall be far away?

*Jianping Wang x 5361*



# Student

# Profile

*In order to understand what some of our students are thinking and doing nowadays, Crossing staff member Jianping Wang interviewed Thomas Gonzalez, newly elected President of Student Government Association. The following is an excerpt from the interview:*

**Q.** Can you tell us something about yourself?

**A** I am a Puerto Rican by descent. I was born in Roxbury and currently reside in Dorchester. This is my second year at RCC. I major in social studies.

**Q.** What brought you to RCC?

**A** I was a political science major at Northeastern for one semester. I wasn't comfortable with the environment there. I was looking for a multi-cultural learning environment that best serve my needs, a multi-cultural student body, faculty and administration and an environment that will enable me to interact with multi-ethnic groups of people. RCC is a place I feel happy to be in.

**Q.** Why do you choose to major in political science?

**A** A lot of Puerto Ricans do not get a chance to get into politics either back in Puerto Rico or here in the U.S.. I feel that getting into politics is important. Legislature passes laws on daily basis whereas those who are affected don't have a say in the process. Studying political science will enable me to understand the process and prepare me to get into this process in the future. One of my aspirations is to run

for the U.S. Congress.

**Q.** What will you do when you do get into the political process in the future?

**A** The first thing I'd like to do is to pass some laws that will encourage and enable minority participation in the voting process.

**Q.** How is RCC preparing you in realizing your aspirations?

**A** Honestly, I have surpassed what the academic courses can offer to me. But RCC has offered and is continuing to offer me the kind of analytical thinking that I need. Especially my interaction with the faculty has proved to be very helpful and rewarding.

**Q.** How do you look at your new position as President of the Student Government Association?

**A** The position agrees with what I want to do in the future. My responsibility enables me to see on a small scale how the government works and how a political process works.

**Q.** What would you like to tell your fellow students?

**A** Two things. First, work hard, play hard and have fun. RCC is a fun place if you are serious. Secondly, don't be apathetic. Please get involved. Your participation can be in many ways: SGA, tutoring, clubs, etc. If any of you need help or have questions and concerns, don't forget that you can come to SGA. I will work with other SGA members to provide the best service we can.

**Jianping Wang x 5361**

## Human Resources New Appointments

The College extends a warm welcome to the newly appointed:

- Dean of Curriculum & Instruction  
*Dr. Sandra Chambers Vaughn*
  - Chairperson for Nursing Division  
*Shellie Simons*
  - Director of Admissions & Records  
*Michael Rice*
  - Director of Business & Industry  
*Carol Bliss-Furr*
  - Faculty in:
    - English:* Glaceta Honeyghan  
David Updike
    - Music:* Edmond Moussally
    - Nursing:* Mary Marcklinger
    - Early Childhood Education:*  
Linda Allen
  - Staff
    - Administrative Assistant II,  
President's Office  
*B. Christine Fajors*
    - Clerk II, President's Office  
*Wanda Tevenal*
    - Clerk III, Office of VP, Academic & Student Affairs  
*Veronica Patterson*
- We wish you the very best in our joint adventure for a brighter future at RCC.

### Searches in Progress

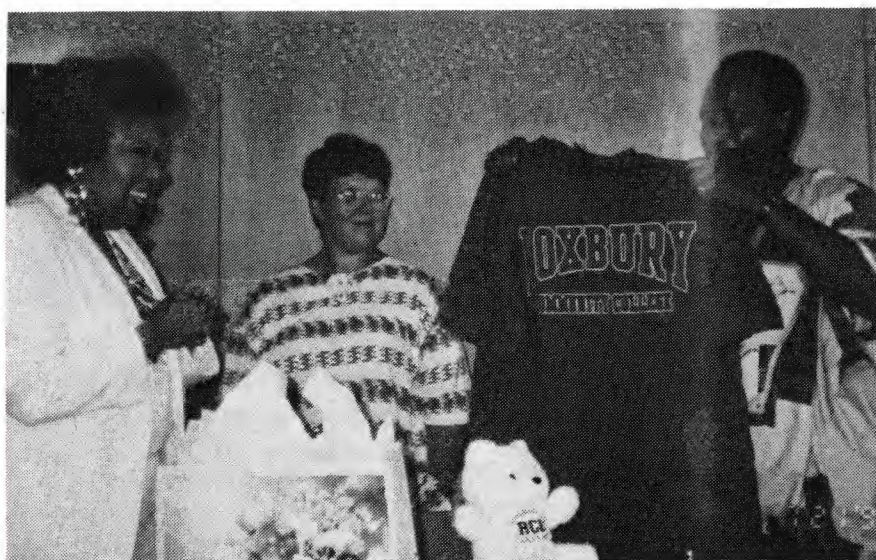
As a continuing effort to improving our infrastructure, the following searches are in progress:

- Dean of Student Affairs
- Dean of Academic Support Services
- Chairperson, Division of Humanities and Social Science
- Chairperson, Division of English and ESL
- Chairperson, Division of Business Technology
- Director of Student Activities
- Assistant Director of Admissions/Admissions Officer
- Assistant Registrar
- Faculty:
  - Science (1)
  - Early Childhood Education (1)
  - Psychology (1)

**Dr. Bruce Rose x 5303**  
**Elizabeth Leon x 5330**



# Faculty News



*From Left to right: President Brown, Professor Georgia Weetman and Professor Aggrey Mbere*

On July 21, 1994 the Board Room of the Administration Building was packed with approximately sixty people who came to say farewell to Professor Aggrey Mbere who is returning to his homeland in South Africa after his twenty-one years of service to RCC.

On behalf of the College, President Brown extended our heartfelt appreciation for Professor Mbere's contributions to the College and our best wishes for his admirable strife for equity and excellence for his home country.

Professor Mbere with his usual inspiring eloquence brought us all into remarkable historic moments when people from South Africa contributed significantly to this country. These memories were vividly refreshed with a touching tone by Professor Mugelle Otieno

who highly praised Professor Mbere's influential and charismatic role at RCC. On behalf of the faculty Professor Angel Amy-Moreno expressed our mixed feelings about Professor Mbere's departure. "We are happy for you," said Professor Amy-Moreno, "but we are

sorry to see you leaving us. We will miss you."

Former students and current colleagues of Professor Mbere, Barbara Perry and Muguey Seck, together with Chiso Okafor echoed Professor Amy-Moreno's message. Professor Georgia Weetman, now the most senior faculty member summarized our feelings. "During those twenty-one years we worked together, we had struggles and ups and downs. But we always were held together by the mission of the College."

President Brown expressed our deep feelings to Professor Mbere, "We thank you. We love you. We will miss you and we hope to see you soon."

*Jianping Wang x 5361*



*Professor Aggrey Mbere and Trustee Sharif Abdal-Khallaq*



My name is Blanche "Christine" Fajors. God has blessed me with three wonderful children and two super grandsons (four and two years old). My youngest son is a Harvard Business School graduate; my oldest son is a graduate of Boston College; and my daughter is a graduate of the American Fashion College of Lucerne, Switzerland.

I have spent my entire life living and working in the greater Boston area. On April 4, 1994, it was my pleasure to join Roxbury Community College as an Administrative Assistant in the Office of

the President. Prior to my arrival, I worked as an Executive Secretary/Administrative Assistant at several high-tech industries including thirteen years at a computer/consulting firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts. My outside interests include singing in a Church choir, playing the piano, race walking and tennis.

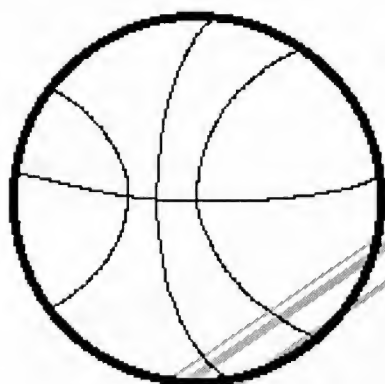
We have all heard the maxim: "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." After completing almost four challenging months at Roxbury Community College, I have faith in the future of the College under the capable leadership of



our President, Dr. Grace C. Brown and the varied expertise of everyone here.

I am looking forward to adding exceptional value to the continued success of Roxbury Community College.

*Christine Fajors x 5301*



## Athletic Department

To enrich the student's educational experience at RCC, the Athletic Department has planned a series of activities for the fall semester:

- Baseball Games
- Men's and Women's Basketball Games
- Indoor Track Activities
- Aerobic and Karate Programs
- Pilot Program of Stress Therapy

Some of the specific schedules are as follows:

9/12 .....	Baseball Practice Starts
9/21 .....	Baseball Practice Ends
9/23 .....	RCC Tigers vs. Holyoke (away)
9/24 .....	Northshore vs. RCC Tigers (home)
9/27 .....	RCC Tigers vs. Bunker Hill (away)
9/28 .....	Mass Bay vs. RCC Tigers (home)
10/1 .....	Holyoke vs. RCC Tigers (home)
10/8 .....	Springfield Tech. vs. RCC Tigers (home)
10/12 .....	Bunker Hill vs. RCC Tigers (home)
10/14 .....	RCC Tigers vs. Mass Bay (away)
10/15 .....	RCC Tigers vs. North Shore (away)
10/22,23 .....	New York Cholo Sox vs. RCC Tigers (home)

*John Thomas x5007*



# News and Updates



## Budget FY'95

At the beginning of the new fiscal year '95, we are happy to announce that Roxbury Community College has received a state maintenance appropriation of \$8.2 million which includes \$0.5 million for start-up FY'95 operation for the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center. That means the adjusted state maintenance appropriation for the College is \$7.7 million, which is a 5.3% increase from that of last year. Even though the general trend of state appropriation for public higher education shows an upward slope nation-wide, a 5.3% increase is significant in the national picture. According to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, among 20 states, community college system in Florida receiving 6.7% increase in state appropriation ranks the highest.

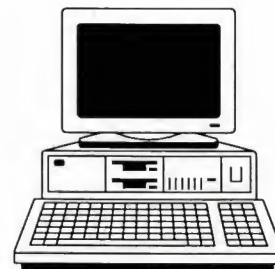
The success of obtaining the modest FY'95 state maintenance appropriation increase represents the culmination of intensive lob-

bying efforts on behalf of the College. The success is, in a large part, due to the efforts of the College's legislative delegation. On April 28, 1994, President Brown held the second annual legislative briefing. The invited guests include state representatives and senators from Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan and other districts in Boston. Presentations were made by President Brown, Vice Presidents Rose and Rubin.

After the briefing, the follow-up efforts were made by the College administration and the Board of Trustees that improved communication between the College and the state legislature. These efforts resulted in the improved state appropriation for RCC.

In order to ensure adequate spending of the state appropriation, a planning process has been initiated. For the first time in the recent history of the College, resource allocations will be driven by academic programs. We encourage everyone at the College to contribute your experience and knowledge to make RCC academic programs and student services the best for our students.

*Jianping Wang x 5361*  
*Trich Kruza x 5446*



## Computer Update

After almost a year and half struggle to obtain state funds for replacing our antiquated computer system, RCC has finally received authorization of approximately \$2.1 million from the state.

In order to obtain spending approval as well as to insure efficient and effective processes for purchasing the equipment, installation of the system, establishment of the College computer center and training of staff and student users, a planning team, computer task force, has been formed, co-chaired by Vice President Rubin and Consultant Stephen Kelley whose expertise is in academic computing system. Members of the task force include James Smith, Dolly Hwang, Michael Rice, James Yong, Quinton Wilder, Todd Bausley, Henry Key, Trich Kruza, Colleen Spence, Monica Bond, Roberta Schokta, and Doris Woods. Additional faculty members will join the group in the Fall. The team welcomes and encourages the college com-



# News and Updates

munity to generously contribute your ideas and comments to the planning process. Please call Jim Smith x 5159 if you would like to give input.

*Jianping Wang x 5361*



## Reaccreditation

As the weather heats up, the self-study team works harder. On June 21 and July 19, the whole team had two full day work sessions.

Thanks to the contributions of all team members and staff members Jeremy Ryan, Annette Douglin, Veronica Patterson, Martha Lambert, Carol Fye, and Jean Ewing, we have received first draft of committee reports from all sub-committees. Congratulations to all self-study team members!

The next scheduled meeting of the steering committee is on September 13 when the co-chairs will

present the first draft of the entire self-study report for review. We will also be planning for the college community to give input in the Fall. We urge you to contribute your ideas and thoughts to make the self-study process a great success.

We sincerely thank you all for your support.

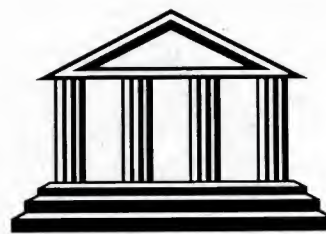
*Jianping Wang x 5361*



## Enrollment

As of July 26, 1994 we have registered 1025 new students and 734 returning students. Compared to this time last year the figure of registered new students is about the same, but figures of registered returning students is higher.

*Michael Rice x 5320*



## Acuerdo

After almost a year long process of reviewing and discussing our current governance system at numerous assembly and Acuerdo meetings, a first draft of revised *Principles and Procedures of Governance of Roxbury Community College* is now available for the community review. Series of discussions will be held in the Fall to seek comments from the college community. Information regarding time and place of these discussions will be forthcoming. Everyone is highly encouraged to participate in this review process.

A sound participatory governance system can only be established with active participation of all interest groups. If you have any questions or comments, please call Jianping Wang x 5361.

*Jianping Wang x 5361*

**Crossing**

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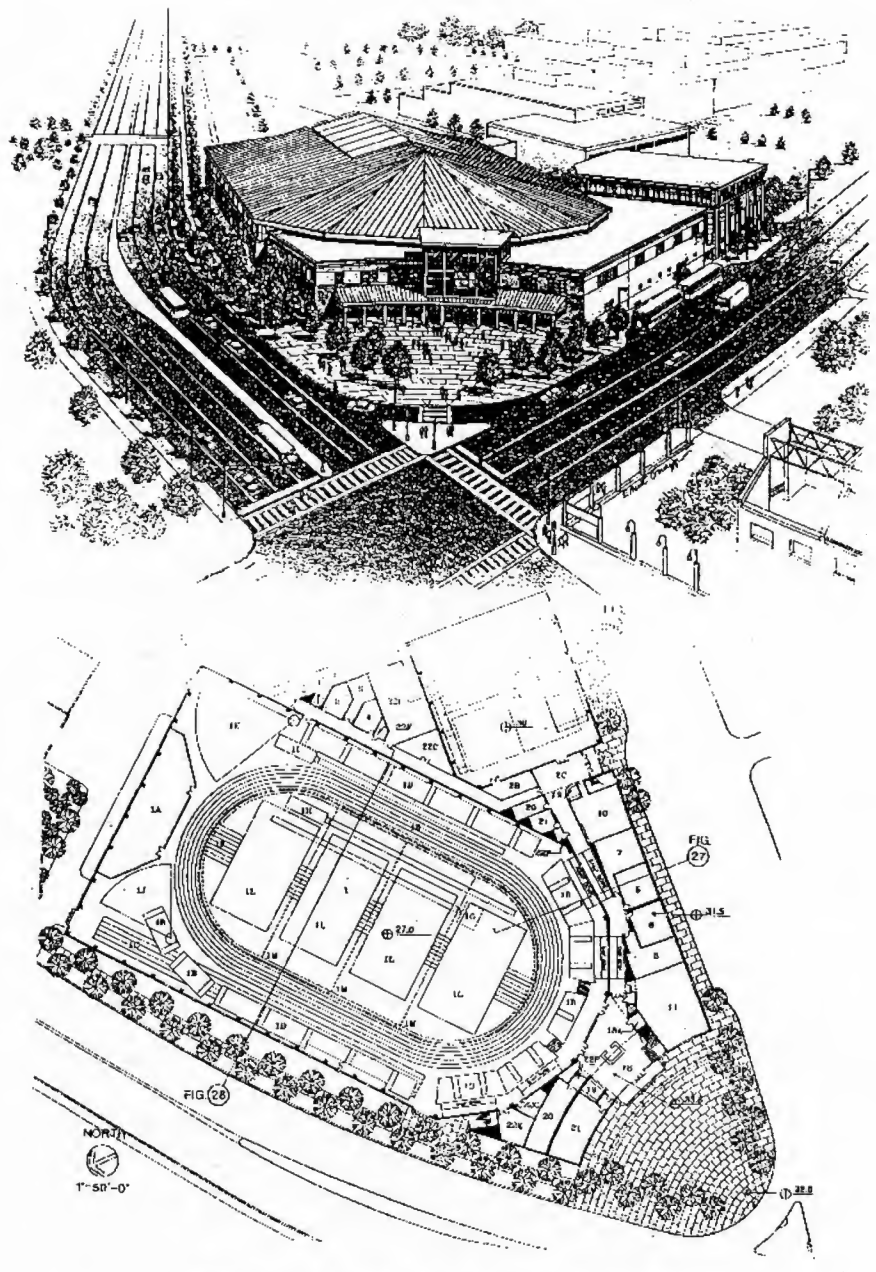
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## Survey Results

On April 11, 1994, the College administered two surveys in order to gather information regarding institutional climate. 139 College employees completed cultural, environmental, structural and technical assessment (CESTA). 133 college employees completed Personal Assessment of the college environment (PACE). The overall responses from CESTA suggest that "the college is functioning between a system 3 (consultative) and a system 2 (benevolent authoritative) level of management style" (Executive summary of CEASE report). The overall responses from PACE "portray a healthy campus climate" (Executive summary from PACE report). For a complete copy of both executive summaries, please call Jianping Wang x 5361.

*Jianping Wang x 5361*



## Reggie Lewis Track

Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center at Roxbury Community College has received a state appropriation of \$0.5 million as FY'95 start-up operation budget.

The construction of the track is scheduled to be completed in March, 1995. The principal purpose of the facility is to provide a

high quality setting for high school track competition and practice in the state. The facility will also become the site for many of RCC's athletic and academic programs. For detailed information, please call Howard Medlar x 5388.

*Charles Rubin x5304*





## ***Looking Forward***

*Because the present is now*

*And the future seems distant*

*Don't postpone looking forward*

*While preoccupied with an instant*

*Failure to take a strategic view*

*Diminishes the future in its potential*

*for you*

*Present derelictions infect the future*

*with afflictions*

*And while the future is inevitable it*

*need not be regrettable*

*Time has its way of teaching the lesson*

*That living only for the present*

*Robs the future of its blessings*

*There is only one present*

*While many futures can come true*

*Preparation is the key*

*The responsibility is on you.*

***Charles Rubin x 5304***